

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A communication module used in Fast Ethernet (R) comprising:

- a retimer controlling a physical layer; and
- a microcomputer performing general control of said communication module, wherein said microcomputer includes:
 - a storing portion storing a copy of a register included in said retimer and having a value updated by said retimer in accordance with predetermined timing, and
 - an input/output portion outputting the copy of the register stored in said storing portion to a host device in accordance with a request by said host device.

2. (Original) The communication module according to claim 1, wherein said storing portion further stores contents of a register defined by 10-Gb Ethernet (R) communication module multi-source agreement.

3. (Original) The communication module according to claim 1, wherein said microcomputer further includes a nonvolatile memory in which the copy of the register stored in said storing portion is written in accordance with predetermined timing.

4. (Currently amended) A communication module for use in Fast Ethernet (R) comprising:

- a retimer for controlling a physical layer; and
- first and second microcomputers performing general control of said communication module, wherein

said first microcomputer includes:

a first storing portion storing a copy of a register included in said retimer and having a value updated by said retimer in accordance with predetermined timing, and

a first input/output portion outputting the copy of the register stored in said first storing portion to a host device in accordance with a request by said host device; and

said second microcomputer includes:

a second storing portion storing contents of a register defined by 10-Gb Ethernet (R) communication module multi-source agreement, and

a second input/output portion outputting the contents stored in said second storing portion to said host device in accordance with a request by said host device.

5. (Original) The communication module according to claim 4, wherein

said first microcomputer further includes a first nonvolatile memory in which the copy of the register stored in said first storing portion is written in accordance with predetermined timing.

6. (Original) The communication module according to claim 4, wherein

said second microcomputer further includes a second nonvolatile memory in which the contents stored in said second storing portion are written in accordance with predetermined timing.